REGISTRATION FORM

24TH ALUMNI COLLEGE / SEPTEMBER 1-5, 1999

Please reserve a place for me

_____Class_____

and a place for my spouse/guest _____

Address_____

_____

Phone_____

My first choice is #____ My second choice is #____

Spouse/guest first choice is #___ Spouse/guest second choice is #___

Special housing needs?_____

_____

Fees

$450–all-inclusive cost per person (tuition, books, four nights' lodging, meals, and evening entertainment at Bread Loaf).

Method of payment

☐ Check payable to Middlebury College enclosed

☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Card number_____ Expiration date_____

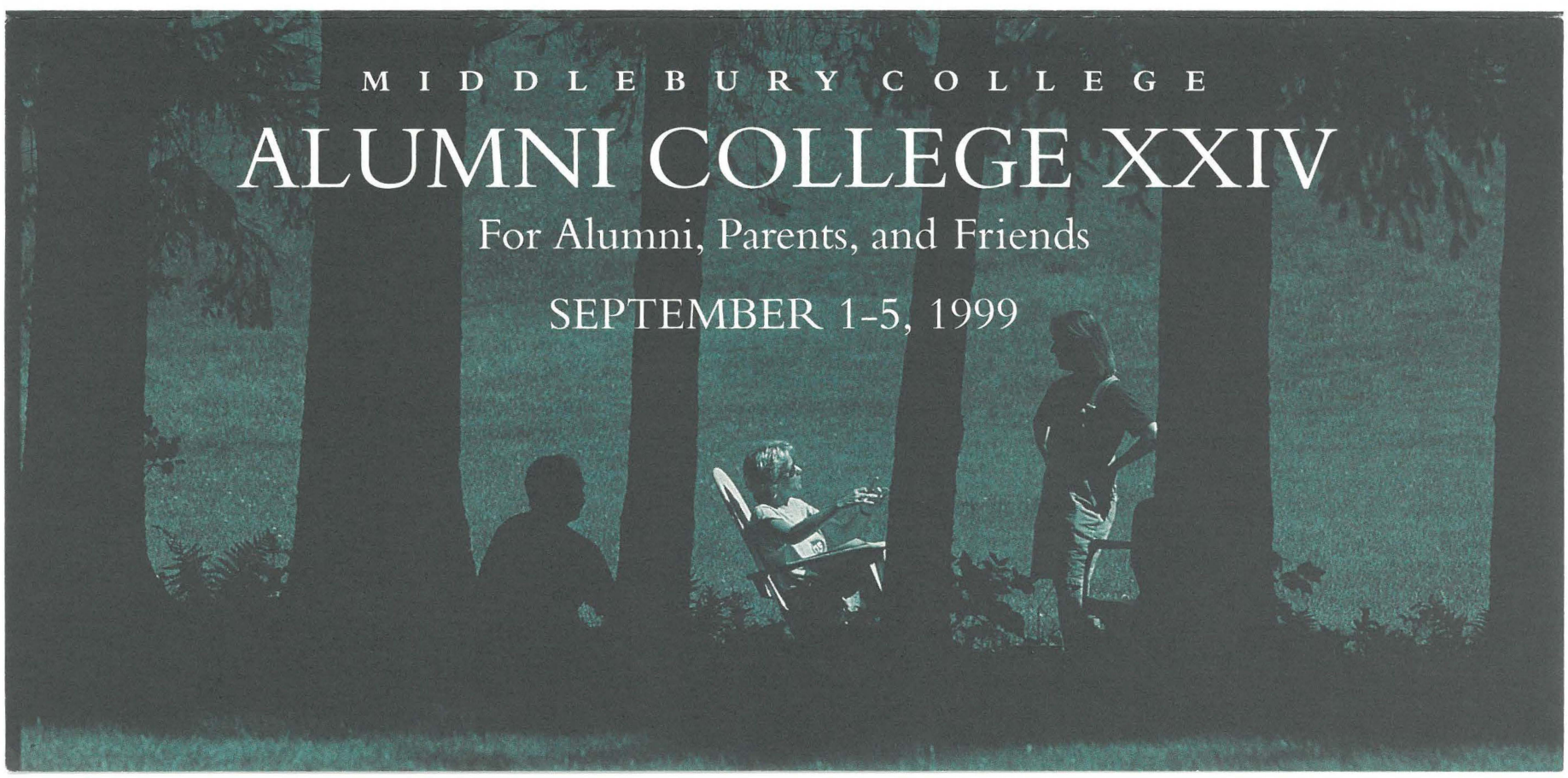
Cardholder's name_____

Cardholder's signature_____

Please send form with payment to:
Alumni and Parent Programs Office
Meeker House
Middlebury College
Middlebury, VT 05753

Reservation deadline: August 23 • No refunds after August 23

Need more information, including child care options?
Contact Nellie Morison in the alumni and parent programs office
at (802) 443-5183 fax: (802) 443-2082
email: morison@middlebury.edu



ALUMNI COLLEGE XXIV

LEGACIES OF THE 20TH CENTURY

This year's selection of Alumni College courses is as eclectic as ever, but there is an underlying theme. Each course considers some of the consequences of changes that have been wrought by the 20th century. Some of those changes that we will examine have been momentous, such as the rise of Bolshevism and Facism, the impact of political and social changes on religion, or new scientific discoveries about the universe and our place in it. Others, such as the development of new entertainment media, or attitudes toward food and health, have touched our lives in different ways. Finally, in the Middlebury tradition, we have included a course that provides an opportunity to consider how a nation with a different perspective has responded to some of the most recent changes.

COURSES

1. Problems of Fidelity in Film Adaptation
Don Mitchell, Lecturer in English and Theatre

The adaptation of literature into film raises difficult issues. How far dare the film maker stray from the text? What changes are, or are not, legitimate in transposing a literary work of art to film? We will consider three recent films that take controversial risks with their source texts: Roland Joffe's adaptation of *The Scarlet Letter*, Baz Luhrmann's *Romeo and Juliet*, and Anthony Minghella's adaptation of Michael Ondaatje's *The English Patient*. Students will read (or reread) the source texts in advance and view the films at Alumni College.

2. Communism and Fascism: The Totalitarian Impulse in the 20th Century
James L. West, Professor of Humanities

Nazism and Bolshevism are the clearest expressions of totalitarianism in this century. We will examine the origins, evolution, and practices of these twin evils and the legacy that they leave at the end of the millennium. These opposite, yet similar responses to the stresses of the modern age will be considered through an examination of their founding documents, theoretical underpinnings, and cultural production. We also will discuss the controversial recent historiography of Nazism and new perspectives on Leninism and Stalinism offered by the recently opened Soviet archives.

3. New-Fashioned Classical Cuisine: Food, Culture, and Health at the End of the 20th Century
Lisa Landino, Assistant Professor of Chemistry; Charles "Chaz" Sternberg, Catering Manager; and David Phelps, Executive Chef.

What is the relationship between a people and its food? What effects are scientific advances in our knowledge about the relationship between food and health having on the great culinary traditions as we near the end of the millennium? What are the secrets to preparing healthy gourmet dishes? The mornings will be devoted to discussing those questions, with particular emphasis on the culinary traditions of France and Italy. The afternoons will be devoted to preparing healthy versions of classic dishes, with the advice and assistance of two master chefs.

4. Big Bang to Big Brain: From the Origin of the Universe to the Evolution of Intelligent Life
Frank Winkler, Painter Bicentennial Professor (Physics); Kate Winkler, Ph.D. candidate, Duke University.

When the Universe began, filled with a uniform hot gas, nothing could have been simpler. Now, some 15 billion years later, complexity abounds. There are untold numbers of galaxies, each containing billions of blazing stars, some of them surrounded by systems of planets. On at least one of those planets, life has evolved to the point where it can contemplate its own origins. Join us as we explore recent discoveries in astronomy and biology that have led to startling new insights about how we came to be here. Speculate with us about what lies ahead, from the nature of the universe as a whole to the decoding of human genes. We promise that no equations will be allowed—this is a course for everyone.

5. Christianity, Judaism, Islam, and the Legacy of the 20th Century
Katherine Sonderegger, Associate Professor of Religion

We will examine these three major religions at the close of a tumultuous century, which has included the collapse of the Ottoman Empire, two global wars, the Holocaust, the founding of Israel, and the rise of Islamic fundamentalist movements. The three great religions had to face, and face down, threats from modern secularism: historical criticism of sacred texts; the rise of secular sciences; modern emancipation movements; the loss of historical continuity; and the rise of religious pluralism. All three traditions have become modern, but each in its own way, with distinctive losses and gains.

6. France Today, France Tomorrow
Edward Knox, College Professor of French, Huguette L. Knox, Lecturer in French

As the century comes to a close, and the era of the "euro" begins, France faces many of the same issues as its European neighbors and the United States: globalization, immigration, health, retirement, the environment, the distribution of wealth, etc. France's answers often are different from our own, and they challenge us to rethink some of our own preconceptions. We will do so through readings, films, and video, along with exploration of the Internet for those who are interested. One of us also will hold a French table at meals for those interested in refreshing their French.

FACULTY

Don Mitchell, a practicing writer and sheep farmer, has taught workshops in creative writing, with a special emphasis on screenwriting, at Middlebury since 1986. One of Don's own books became a Hollywood movie. He also is the author of three very funny volumes of essays about moving from Hollywood to Vermont to "go back to the land," and, most recently, *Vermont*, a guide to the state. The critical issues surrounding film adaptation have been the focus of his first-year seminars with Middlebury students.

James West arrived at Middlebury in 1995 after many years as a senior professor of Russian history at Trinity College. He recently co-edited *Merchant Moscow: Images of Russia's Vanished Bourgeoisie* (Princeton University Press, 1998). Jay was a participant in the first study abroad program in the USSR in 1965, and he has made innumerable visits to Russia since then. His Middlebury courses have achieved a well-deserved reputation for interdisciplinary creativity.

Lisa Landino joined the Middlebury faculty in 1997, following her graduate work at the University of Virginia. Her scientist's understanding of nutrition, an Italian heritage, and years living in France have translated into successful Middlebury first-year seminars on culture, cooking, and health. **David Phelps,** a magna cum laude graduate of Johnson & Wales Culinary Institute, served as chef manager at Mount Holyoke and Duke before assuming the position of Middlebury's executive chef in 1996. **Chaz Sternberg**, who began his career as an apprentice to the Swiss master chef Franz Hermann, was co-owner of the Chaz Restaurant and Cafe before coming to Middlebury as catering manager in 1996. At "Chaz," he presided over the first heart-healthy gourmet restaurant in Vermont.

Frank Winkler and **Kate Winkler** make up the first father-daughter team to contribute to Alumni College. Frank has taught physics and astronomy at Middlebury since 1969 and is now the Gamaliel Painter Professor. His research centers on supernovae and their remnants, "pouring over the corpses of dead and dying stars," work that frequently takes him to major observatories in Chile and the southwestern U.S. Kate is a Ph.D. candidate in cell and molecular biology at Duke University. She has taught chemistry and biology, and her research centers on understanding the mechanism of cell division and how abnormalities in this process contribute to cancer.

Kate Sonderegger is an Alumni College veteran who possesses the rare ability to combine serious thought with a fine, ironic sense of humor honed in the "real winters" of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. She is a graduate of Yale Divinity School and Brown, where she received her Ph.D. Kate teaches courses in Christian thought and in the women's studies program, which she has chaired. Her research specialty is modern Christian theology. Kate currently is working on a book on Christian faith.

Edward and **Huguette Knox** came to Middlebury in 1969. Ed has served in a variety of senior administrative positions, including academic vice president and acting president, and he has directed the School in France on several occasions. His teaching and research interests focus on how the French and Americans view contemporary France. Educated in France, Huguette teaches a course that prepares our students planning to attend the School in France, as well as advising them on all manner of practical questions about life in France. The Knoxes recently coauthored *Plus ça change*, an introduction to contemporary France.

"Mealtimes gems of talk and laughter . . . glorious opportunity to be with so many people of like minds . . ."
Phyllis Cole Deming '51